SUMMARY TRANSLATION OF RUSSIAN ARTICLES ON AMATEUR RADIO
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH 1997

[Rough, summary translations of selected amateur news from the weekly newspaper PATRIOT, mostly from a column called **KV** info - **S**hort**w**ave **I**nformation - **SW Info**, edited by Ivan Kazanskiy, UA3FT. In November 1995, "KVI" replaced "**NLD**" (**n**a **l**yubitel'skikh **d**iapazonakh -- **O**n the **A**mateur **B**ands), edited by Boris Grigor'yevich Stepanov, RU3AX. The number, month, and "signed" date of the PATRIOT newspaper are given for identification, along with the serial number of the "KVI" column.]

[As part of its support of the International Amateur Radio Union, the American Radio Relay League generously reimburses subscription and postal expenses.]
[Square brackets set off material **not appearing in the original** -- a comment by the translator, a reference, or the equivalent expression in another language.]

[For ease of reading or for ease of page division, long paragraphs in the original may be divided into subparagraphs preceded by ten rather than five spaces.]

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Please send corrections and comments, for
possible inclusion in a future issue, to:

Dexter Anderson - W4KM
150 Eleventh Street SE
Washington DC 20003-3911 USA

SUMMARY TRANSLATION SENT TO ARRL 26 APRIL 1997

PATRIOT ##01-02, JANUARY 1997, SIGNED 14 JANUARY 1997:

KVI-053, IN PATRIOT ##01-02/1997

COMPETITIONS [SOREVNOVANIYA]

[Major international contests scheduled for the first quarter of 1997. Mentioned below are those involving the Commonwealth of Independent States.]

4 - 5 January 1997: Women's Championship of the Russian Federation [Chempionat RF sredi zhenshchin] and the "Radiocharity" Fund Cup [Kubok Fonda "Radiomiloserdiye"], SSB. These are separate contests conducted simultaneously.

11 - 12 January 1997: Cup of the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation [Kubok TsRK RF], c.w.

8 - 9 March 1997: Ukraine Championship [Chempionat Ukrainy], c.w.

A reminder: Amateurs belonging to clubs that are collective members of the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel' may send their reports for contests sponsored by national amateur societies[1] via the Central Radio Club, within two weeks.

On 17 January 1997, the Telephone Championship for the Asian Part of Russia will be held on 1.8, 3.5, and 7 MHz, in two rounds, 1600 - 1959, and 2000 - 2400 MSK. Winners will be determined from among radio amateurs in the Urals, Siberia, and the Far East. [Rules, involving geographic coordinates rounded off to the nearest ten degrees, are given.] Send reports within 15 days to: 630032 Novosibirsk, a/ya 177, Pashkovu A. S. [A. S. Pashkov, P O Box 177, 630032 NOVOSIBIRSK, Russia].

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

UA1PBA will spend about a month at the Novolazarevskaya station in Antarctica, operating as R1AND [sic]. QSL to RZ1PWA.

SP3GVX will operate from King George Island in the South Shetland Islands, at the Polish station that previously used the callsign HFØPOL. The callsign to be used [on this occasion] has not been announced. QSL to SP3FYM.

Encouraging news from North Korea: JH1AJT and JH4RHF have organized amateur radio training classes. Perhaps P5s will appear on the air as a result?

SILENT KEY

One of the most senior and active French shortwavers has passed away -- Ted Robinson, F8RU. Almost up to the end, you could hear him on the air.

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[1]This could represent an attempt to assert the Central Radio Club's claim to be the rightful amateur radio society of Russia.

PATRIOT #03, JANUARY 1997, SIGNED 21 JANUARY 1997:

[The following three articles appeared in the "Club 'EFIR'" ("'AIRWAVES' Club") column]

CALENDAR OF ALL-RUSSIAN RADIO COMPETITIONS IN 1997

[Schedules for the following categories were given in the article; only the last two are given below:]

Speed radiotelegraphy [skorostnaya radiotelegrafiya];
Radio operator mixed events [? - mnogobor'ye radistov];
Radio operator dual events [? - dvoyebor'ye radistov];
Sport radiodirectionfinding [sportivnaya radiopelengatsiya];
Combined [? - kompleksnyye] [events?];
Radiocommunication on VHF/UHF/SHF [radiosvyaz' na KV i UKV];
Radio exhibition [radiovystavka].

HF AND VHF/UHF/SHF RADIO

Quarterly during 1997: "Records Day" Cup
[kubok "Den' rekordov"];
5 January 1997: Women's HF Telephone Championship
[chempionat na KV telefonom (zhenshchiny)];
5 January 1997: "Radiocharity" Fund HF Telephone Cup
[kubok Fonda "Radiomiloserdiye" na KV telefonom];
12 January 1997: Central Radio Club HF Telegraph Cup
[Kubok TsRK na KV telegrafom];
9 March 1997: HF Telephone Championship
[chempionat na KV telefonom];
20 April 1997: HF Telegraph Championship
[chempionat na KV telegrafom];
20 April 1997: Satellite Radio Championship
[chempionat po radiosvyazi cherez ISZ];
May and October 1997: "Young Radioamateur" Cup
[kubok "Yunyy radiolyubitel'"];
7 May 1997: "Best Observer [SWL]" Cup
[kubok "Luchshiy nablyudatel'"];
7 - 8 June 1997: Ultrashortwave [VHF/UHF/SHF] Cup
[kubok na UKV];
26 - 27 July 1997: Ultrashortwave [VHF/UHF/SHF] "Field Day" Cup
[kubok "Polevoy den'" na UKV];
4 - 8 September 1997: On-site/off-site Championship
[Ochno-zaochnyy chempionat], Tikhoretsk;
21 December 1997: E. T. Krenkel' Memorial HF Telegraph Cup
[Kubok pamyati E. T. Krenkelya na KV telegrafom].

RADIO EXHIBITION

February 1997, Moscow, ten days: All-Russian Exhibition of Projects of Radioamateur-constructors, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Osoaviakhim - DOSAAF - ROSTO [Vserossiyskaya vystavka rabot radiolyubiteley-konstruktorov, posvyashchennaya 70-letiyu Osoaviakhima - DOSAAF - ROSTO].

CONTEST RULES [POLOZHENIYE O SOREVNOVANIYAKH]

by N[ikolay Valentinovich] Kazanskiy, UA3AF
Senior HF Radio Trainer, Central Radio Club of
the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel'

In 1997, all championships and cup playoffs in the Russian Federation will take place under the same rules. The competitions, which are organized and conducted by the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel', are open to all radio amateurs in the world. Contestants are divided into four groups:

"Single operator of an individual station, single band"
["Odin operator individual'noy stantsii, odin diapazon"];
"Single operator of an individual station, multi-band"
["Odin operator individual'noy stantsii, vse diapazony"];
"Team of a collective station (2 - 3 operators), multi-band"
["Komanda kollektivnoy stantsii (2 - 3 operatora), vse diapazony"];
"Observer" [SWL]
["Nablyudatel'"].
The competitions are conducted in two rounds, 0000 - 0400 and 0800 - 1200 MSK[2]

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[2]MSK = Moskovskoye vremya = Moscow Time. MSK is used both for "winter" (November to March) and "summer" (April to October) time. MSK = GMT + 3 in the "winter" period; MSK = GMT + 4 in the "summer" period. In the USSR (and possibly still in Russia), Moscow Time was used as a kind of internal GMT. I recall clocks in airports and railroad stations in the Soviet Far East being set to MSK, with the result that at 7:00 p.m. local time in Khabarovsk it would be dark yet such clocks would read noon.

All times are reporting times.[3] Repeat contacts are permitted not earlier than the next calendar hour[4], regardless of band. All shortwave bands[5] except 10, 18, and 24 MHz may be used.

The control numbers exchanged by contestants consist of a QSO serial number beginning with 001 and the geographical coordinates of the station, rounded off to the [nearest?] ten degrees. For example, a station in Tomsk with the coordinates 57° N/85° E transmits 00169, 00269, etc. A station in Vladivostok with the coordinates 44° N/133° E transmits 001413, 002413, etc. The QSO numbers are in a single series for both rounds.

The number of band switches must not exceed 40.

Each QSO is worth points equal to the difference in coordinates, in latitude and longitude, between the two stations (added together).

The final score is determined by multiplying the total number of QSOs by 5 and is combined with [? - skladyvayetsya s] the sum of points for the difference in coordinates. Contestants located at or north of 70° N multiply their scores by 1.1.

[Rules for SWLs.]

[Description of prizes.]

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[3]I assume this means there are no obligatory rest periods and no maximum length of operation within the overall contest period.

[4]I can only assume that a "calendar" hour refers to any hour zero minutes to the following hour zero minutes.

[5]In the present context, 160m is almost certainly considered a "shortwave" band, even though, strictly speaking, it is a mediumwave band. (In ITU terminology, "short wave" equates to HF, which extends from above 3 000 kHz up to and including 30 MHz; "medium wave" equates to MF, which extends from above 300 kHz up to and including 3 000 kHz.)

EVERYTHING'S RIGHT, EVERYTHING'S TIMELY
[VSE PRAVIL'NO, VSE SVOYEVREMENNO]

by V. Vorob'yev, UA4YC
Honorary Member of the Central Radio Club of
the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel'
Oraushi Village, Chuvashiya[6]

The new instruction "On the Procedure for the Registration and Operation of Amateur Radio Stations" is a very important document for all radio amateurs in the country. Compared to the previous instruction, it represents a step forward. It's very important that now an 8-year-old may become the licensee of a 4th-category and even of a 3rd-category station, and a 16-year-old may upgrade to the 1st-category and head up a collective station. Now, in order to attract youth to the radio amateur movement, we need to organize production of a reasonably-priced transceiver, at an enterprise of the radioequipment industry or within the OSTO[7] industrial base.

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[6]Amateur stations in the Chuvashskaya Republic (abbreviation CU), contain the embedded Russian identifier 4Y.

[7]Following the breakup of the USSR, ROSTO (Rossiyskoye oboronnoye sportivno-tekhnicheskoye obshchestvo - Defense Sport-Technical Society of Russia) was established and assumed the functions, in Russia, of DOSAAF (Vsesoyuznoye dobrovol'noye obshchestvo sodeystviya armii, aviatsii i flotu - All-Union Voluntary Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force, and Navy) of the USSR. The abbreviation OSTO refers to regional, or lower, levels, within the Russian Federation, of ROSTO.

It's very reassuring [otradno] that the instruction permits -- in accordance with the category of the station and within the designated band segments -- practically all modes of emission in use by radio amateurs. It's also reassuring that the frequencies 3.5 - 3.65, 7 - 7.1, 14 - 14.35, 21 - 21.45, and 28 - 29.7 MHz belong to radio amateurs.[8]

Everything stated in the instruction is right and timely. Only the all-important question of monitoring the operation of amateur stations is left unanswered. And such monitoring existed previously. I think OSTO could assist Gossvyaznadzor[9] in setting up a monitoring service.

KVI-054, IN PATRIOT #03/1997

IN THE CENTRAL RADIO CLUB OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

[New money-order numbers for the Central Radio Club and for Moscow amateurs to send their station-operating fees.]

COMPETITIONS

[Rules for the Open HF Radio Championship of Yaroslavskaya Oblast'[10] (otkrytyy chempionat Yaroslavskoy obl. po radiosvyazi na KV), 8 February 1997, organized by the Oblast' Amateur Radio Club.] Send reports within 15 days to 150003, Yaroslavl', a/ya 85, Sudeyskoy kollegii [Judges' Collegium, P. O. Box 85, 150003 YAROSLAV', Russia]. To receive the "Chayka"[11] diploma [certificate][11] for 200 QSOs with Yaroslavskaya Oblast' stations after 1984, enclose 5000 rubles in postage. From RU3MW.

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[8]The instruction also listed frequencies allocated to the amateur service on a secondary basis. See summary translation for October/November/December 1996, page 4.

[9]Gossvyaz'nadzor, gosudarstvennyy nadzor za svyaz'yu, state communications supervision (office), is part of the Ministry of Communication and contains the State Telecommunication Inspectorates, through which amateurs receive their licenses. See summary translation for July/August/September 1994, page 6.

[10]Amateur stations in Yaroslavskaya Oblast' (abbreviation YR), contain the embedded Russian identifier 3M.

[11]Chayka means "sea gull" but is also a luxury automobile.

CLUB NEWS

An international meeting of members of the "Hunters" for diplomas [certificates] club (DIG)[12] will take place from 16 through 19 May 1997 in St. Petersburg. Besides members from Russia, colleagues from Germany, the Czech Republic, Finland, and the Baltic countries supported the idea of holding such a meeting in the white-nights period in our northern capital. The draft program of the event includes an extensive exhibition of foreign, Russian, and local diplomas, the sale of shortwave and ultrashortwave[13] equipment, computer data, and literature, a press conference, blitz-radio-competitions, discussions, lectures, excursions, and operation of a shortwave station with a special callsign. The organizing committee is prepared to consider any other constructive suggestions and to revise its plans if need be. It requests all those interested in taking part in the meeting to send preliminary notifications [? - predvaritel'nyye zayavki] to Rossiya, 197046, Sankt-Peterburg, a/ya 773 [P O Box 773, 197046 ST. PETERSBURG, Russia]. In response, they will be sent the program and the conditions of participation.

DIPLOMAS

The Collective Stations Club (CSC) in Omsk issues the following diplomas [certificates]:

WCS (Worked Club Stations) [rabotal s kollektivnymi stantsiyami];
YL-Op (Young Lady Operator) [zhenshchina-operator];
YTA (Young Technician Award) [diplom yunykh tekhnikov];
SA (Schoolchildren Award) [diplom shkol'nikov];
YTGA (Youth Tutor-Guide Award) [diplom nastavnikov molodezhi];
CSCA (Club Station Club Award)
[diplom kluba kollektivnykh stantsiy];

[Rules are given. The address is not. It is not clear whether foreigners are eligible for these awards.]

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

WA1JBB[14] hopes to operate via satellite from St. Pierre and Miquelon (FP) in August 1997.

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[12]DIG = Diplom-Interessen-Gruppe = Diploma Interests Group, headquartered in Germany.

[13]"Ultra short wave" theoretically includes VHF (30 - 300 MHz), VHF (300 - 3000 MHz), and SHF (3 - 30 GHz), but in a local amateur radio context probably refers to VHF, or possibly to the 144 MHz band, only.

[14]This is Gary R. Cohen of the U.S. Foreign Service.

V26CW will operate c.w. 12 - 19 February 1997, thanks to the efforts of NM9H and KX9X.

JH1AJT and DJ9ZB, who visited Yemen to demonstrate amateur radio and operated 7O1A on SSB, intend to make a return visit in April 1997, at which time they may operate c.w. as well.

Beginning in late January 1997, PA3GBQ will visit Ghana and will be active mornings and evenings as 9G5BQ. He plans to operate all 48 hours in the CQ WW DX 1.8 MHz Contest.

KYØA will visit Namibia in February 1997 and intends to operate as V5/ZS6YG and as V59T in contests. QSL to home call.

On 22 - 28 April 1997, K4PI will again visit Aruba and will operate as P49I.

On 8 - 30 March 1997, W1BIH plans to operate as PJ9JT from Curacao. QSL to W1AX.

The prefix PJ5 will be used during the CQ WW DX 1.8 MHz contest, by 7Z5OO and K3UOC. QSL to W1AF.

PATRIOT #04, JANUARY 1997, SIGNED 28 JANUARY 1997:

KVI-055, IN PATRIOT #04/1997

CLUB NEWS

The year 1996 was notable for our diploma hunters, due to the official founding of the Russian Section of the DIG [Diplom-Interessen-Gruppe - Diploma Interests Group]. Round tables take place regularly and the information service headed by UA1ANA is functioning. Rules have been drawn up for the W-DIG-R diploma, the first recipients of which were RA6AR, OH5JRT, 4Z5GV, RA3AR, RU3RR, U3HB, RX1AB, RA6JZ, UA4LU, and UA9UDX. Those who applied for the diploma before 31 December 1996 will receive it free.

DIPLOMAS

[Revisions in the rules for the "Urals Semiprecious Stones" diploma described in KVI-015 (see summary translation for January - March 1996, page 16).] Send applications and payments to 622022, Sverdlovskaya obl., g. Nizhniy Tagil, a/ya 86, STK "Yupiter", Korolevu V. V. [V. V. Korolev, "Jupiter" Sport Technical Club, 622022 NIZHNIY TAGIL, Sverdlovskaya Oblast', Russia]. From UA9CVQ.

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

From 12 to 19 February 1997, NM9H and KX9X will use the prefix V2 and the callsign V21CW during competitions.

From 12 to 24 February 1997, K8JP will use the prefix VP5 and in competitions the callsign VP5JP. QSL to home call.

W6OSP and WA6VNR are operating from the Cayman Islands as ZF2QM.

9M2RY is N4ISV.[15] Unfortunately, he only has a 14/21 MHz dipole at his disposal. QSL to N4JR.[15]

THOUGHTS CONCERNING... [MYSLI PO POVODU...]

The international expedition to Heard Island will doubtless go down in amateur radio history for its powerful equipment base and its precise organization. Five hours and 51 helicopter flights were required to unload 30 tons of supplies. Simultaneous operation took place from several operating positions, and different modes could be used in a single band without interference. To detect changes in propagation conditions, beams were installed on 14, 18, 21, and 28 MHz. Data on completed QSOs were made available on the Internet, so one could verify that a contact had been logged correctly, though even this capability didn't eliminate the practice of having a repeat QSO, "just in case" ["na vsyakiy sluchay"]. Europeans occupied their usual leading place on the "black list." The Russians weren't far behind. What else was distressing, even extremely distressing, was discrimination. What else could you call picking out favorites from the general mass of those seeking a contact? Discrimination is recognized as a disgrace [pozor] in civilized society and a violation of human rights. However, in the amateur bands it is, alas, not that rare. While limitations of the type "only for Americans" can perhaps be understood as a desire to please one's countrymen (although UN emissaries take an oath to place the interests of the United Nations ahead of those of their own country, and this, too, is probably fair), "by-the-numbers" operation can only be explained by an inability to deal with a pile-up. Evidently, team selection was based not on operating skill but on the thickness of the wallet. Oh, it's so hard to wait in line, envying those with a 1 or 2 in their calls! Worst of all, in precise accordance with "J. Jerome's law" (also known as the "sandwich law")[16]; as one's number approaches, propagation ends... Well, nothing ideal exists in the world, there's room for improvement even in a brilliantly-organized expedition.

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[15]Richards D. Youtes, 9M2RY/N4ISV, and Robert J. Harvey, XU2FB/KE2FB, are in the U.S. Foreign Service. Gerald N. Rossano, N4JR, their QSL manager, is retired from the U.S. Foreign Service.

[16]The context suggests that "J. Jerome's law" is similar or identical to "Murphey's Law" and that the "sandwich law" is the one in accordance with which if a buttered piece of bread is dropped on the floor it will probably land on the buttered side.

PATRIOT #05, FEBRUARY 1997, SIGNED 4 FEBRUARY 1997:

KVI-056, IN PATRIOT #05/1997

"POBEDA-52" ["VICTORY-52"]

This year, the "Pobeda" ["Victory"] Expedition will include a memorial to honor the 52nd anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War[17]. The memorial begins at 0800 UTC 7 May 1997 and ends at 2100 11 May 1997. All amateurs in the world are invited to participate. As in previous years, memorial stations are to operate in the capitals of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, from Russian republics, and from places associated with the history of the Great Patriotic War. In Russia, these stations will use the prefix RP. In accordance with Section 7.3.3 of the new instruction "On the Procedure for the Registration and Operation of Amateur Radio Stations," the Glavgossvyaz'nadzor[18] issues special callsigns. It's extremely important that timely application be made, through regional Gossvyz'nadzors. A copy of the application should be sent, prior to 15 February 1997, to the Organizing Committee of the Expedition at 309261, Belgorodskaya obl., Shebekinskiy r-n, s. Nezhegol', ul. Lenina, 52 [52 Lenin St., 309261 NEZHEGOL' VILLAGE, Shebekinskiy Rayon, Belgorodskaya Oblast', Russia]. Many valuable prizes await participants in the memorial. Future articles will describe the point system and the submission of reports.

COMPETITIONS

[Results of the first Shortwave Radio Telephone Championship of the Asian Part of Russia (pervyy chempionat aziatskoy chasti Rossii po radiosyazi na KV telefonom), 19 January 1996:]

Collective stations: RW9HZZ (O. Shevtsov, V. Zyabaylov, S. Podmar'kov); RZ9OZA (I. Povet'yev, V. Zlobin, A. Alekseyev); RZ9AZA (A. Konnov, V. Mironov, N. Dergalev), RK9YWK, RZ9UZV, RKØCWW, RXØLWC, RZ9UWG, RKØAWQ, and RKØSXF.

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[17]The term, in Russian *Velíkaya Otéchestvennaya Voyná*, refers to 22 June 1941 - 9 May 1945 and 9 August 1945 - 2 September 1945, when the USSR fought against Germany and Japan in World War II.

[18]According to an article in PATRIOT #31, August 1994 (see summary translation for July, August, and September 1994, page 6), as a result of a reorganization within the Ministry of Communication, the State Telecommunication Inspectorate(s), through which radio amateurs receive their licenses, became part of a new structure, Gossvyaz'nadzor (gosudarstvennyy nadzor za svyaz'yu - state communications supervision [office]). The term Glavgossvyaz'nadzor (glav = glavnyy = main) is assumed to refer to the headquarters, or highest level, of Gossvyaz'nadzor.

Individual stations: RZ9OA, UAØWY, RWØAB, RW9IM, UAØACG, UA9UFO, RAØAM, UAØWDQ, RWØUW, and RW9MM.

The organizers did not lack a sense of humor, as indicated by the "well, very special" prizes awarded. For example, a case of American beer went to the RW9HZZ team. A whole bouquet went to I[rina] N. Zaruba, RZ9OA, as the best woman operator, consisting of a Callbook, a telegraph key, a bottle of "Absolut" vodka for the absolute best score among individual operators, a commercially-made [? - firmennyy] QSL album, and "Martini" champagne. Unfortunately (and this has become a sad tradition), a number of sportsmen didn't take the trouble to send in reports -- only 41 did so, and 31 sent in check logs (for which thanks, anything is better than nothing).

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

From 12 February to 3 March 1977, an expedition consisting of DL3LAR, DL8OBQ, and DL6LAU (the QSL manager) is expected to operate from Dominica as J75T.

V31BB is again on the air. (The previous licensee died.) QSL to P. O. Box 3132, Belize City, Belize, Central America.

TN6X has unexpectedly appeared on the air, operating c.w. He asks that QSL cards be sent via DJ6SI.

PATRIOT #06, FEBRUARY 1997, SIGNED 11 FEBRUARY 1997:

KVI-057, IN PATRIOT #06/1997

COMPETITIONS

Due to financial difficulties, the exhibit by radioamateur constructors announced in PATRIOT #03 won't take place.[19]

IN THE CENTRAL RADIO CLUB OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

We intend to continue publishing rules for local competitions [contests] and conditions for obtaining diplomas [certificates]. In this connection, the Central Radio Club requests all radioamateur organizations in Russia conducting competitions or issuing diplomas to send detailed information to 123459, Moskva,, Pokhodnyy pr., 23 [23 Pokhodnyy Proyezd, 123459 MOSCOW, Russia].

DIPLOMAS

[Continuation of rules for diplomas issued by the CSC (Collective Station Club) in Omsk.][19] Send applications to 644099, Omsk, a/ya 1742, Polushkinu Yuriyu Viktorovichu [Yuriy Viktorovich Polushkin, P O Box 1742, 644099 OMSK, Russia].

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[19]See top of page 4, above.

DISTANT STATIONS
[Highly selective]

The expedition to Heard Island (VKØIR) was extremely successful. It took place precisely on the planned dates, 14 to 27 January 1997. About 80,000 QSOs were made with 25,000 stations, which beat the record set by 4J1FS. The stubbornness of operators who weren't used to operating split frequency caused an avalanche of remarks concerning their mental capacities.

Unfortunately, information on DJ6SI's TN5X operation, which ended 4 February 1997, arrived after the fact. QSL to home call (direct, as he isn't a member of DARC).

WT4K, K4QD, and KG4AU used the callsign KG4GC during the CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest, 7 - 9 February 1997, and until about 14 February 1997.

V31TP operated from 12 to 18 February 1997. QSL to WCØW.

SP3GVX has been operating for a year from the Polish Antarctic Station as HFØPOL in the South Shetland Islands.[20] QSL to SP3FYM.

PATRIOT #07, FEBRUARY 1997, SIGNED 18 FEBRUARY 1997:

THE FOLLOWING TWO ARTICLES APPEARED IN A COLUMN CALLED "OSOAVIAKHIM - DOSAAF - OSTO"[21]

"WE HAVE A SINGLE HOMELAND" ["U NAS ODNA RODINA"]

[Interview with Gen-Maj[22] Rafik Mikhaylovich Karapetyan, who was elected Chairman of the DOSAAF Central Committee of the Armenian SSR in 1984, Chairman of the Central Council of the OSTO of the Republic of Armenia in 1992, and Chairman of the Union of OSTOs of the Independent States on 31 January 1997. See second article below for details of the 31 January 1997 election.]

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[20]See page 2, above, for another mention of this operation.

[21]OSOAVIAKHIM (Obshchestvo sodeystviya oborone i aviatsionno-khimicheskomu stroitel'stvu SSSR - USSR Society for Assistance to Defense and to Aviation-Chemical Construction) founded in 1927, was replaced by DOSAAF (Vsesoyuznoye dobrovol'noye obshchestvo sodeystviya armii, aviatsii i flotu = All-Union Voluntary Society for Assistance to the Army, Air Force, and Navy) in 1948. Following the breakup of the USSR, DOSAAF was replaced, in Russia, by ROSTO (Rossiyskoye oboronnoye sportivno-tekhnicheskoye obshchestvo - Defense Sport-Technical Society of Russia) and within each of most of the other former union republics by an OSTO (Oboronnoye sportivno-tekhnicheskoye obshchestvo - Defense Sport-Technical Society).

[22]An accompanying photo shows Karapetyan as a "one-star" general (Brigadier General in U.S. terms), in an army uniform.

Q: Congratulations on the 70th anniversary of OSOAVIAKHIM![21]
A: Thank you! This is a holiday for all of our defense societies[23], which had a common origin with OSOAVIAKHIM back when we had a common homeland, the Soviet Union.

Q: By late 1997, five years will have passed since the transformation of DOSAAF of the USSR into the Union of OSTOs of the Independent States[24]. In some of the former union republics (Georgia, Moldavia), the defense and sport organizations have ceased to exist. How do you see the future of the Union of OSTOS?
A: The outlook is good. The most difficult period, when the very survival of our organizations was in question, is past. So many hunters appeared for our property! There were even attempts to "privatize," or rather to appropriate, former DOSAAF property, equipment, buildings, and institutions. But the OSTOs stood their ground. Life has taught us that isolated from one another the OSTOs of the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States wouldn't last long and that we need to strengthen our Union of OSTOs.

Q: Now that you're not just a member of the Council of OSTO Chairmen of the Countries of the Commonwealth [chlen Soveta predsedateley OSTO stran Sodruzhestva][25] but Chairman of the Central Council of the Union of OSTOs of the Commonwealth of Independent States [predsedatel' TsS Soyuza OSTO SNG], what do you consider to be the basic task of the Union?
A: To continue improving the contacts, worthy traditions, and joint activities which existed before the breakup of the USSR and which continue up to the present time. For example, a republic with an oversupply of one item could exchange it with another republic for items in short supply. Or trips between republics, which have become very expensive, could be facilitated.

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[23]The term "defense society"/"defense societies" is used to refer generically to OSOAVIAKHIM, DOSAAF, or (R)OSTO.

[24]The VII (Seventh) Plenum of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR was held 23 October 1991. A plenum (plenum) is one level lower than a congress (s"yezd) in the meeting hierarchy; a plenum may precede, sometimes directly precede, a congress, yet I have been unable to find a reference to the I (First) Congress of the Union of OSTOs. The VII Plenum approved the decision to convert DOSAAF into the Union of OSTOs and elected the latter's first set of officers. See summary translation RADIO #06/1991, page 24.

[25]The Council of OSTO Chairmen, separate from the Central Council of the OSTOs, was established in February 1992.

Q: With what concrete action will you begin your chairmanship?
A: By visiting the defense societies of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, both at the republic and oblast' levels. I need to attend OSTO congresses and plenums to see how the OSTOs are coping with educational, sport, and financial matters.

Q: "Patriot" newspaper, which celebrates its 70th anniversary 10 May 1997, plays a very important role publicizing the experience and achievements of the defense societies of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. But now its financial condition is such that the defense societies may lose the newspaper unless urgent steps are taken...
A: No, we can't permit this. This is the first I've heard that the survival of "Patriot" was at stake. We'll look for a solution and help out. I think we'll consider the matter at a special session of the Council of OSTO Chairmen, to which we'll invite the Editor-in-Chief. I repeat: We must not lose the newspaper. I'll say even more: If we give it up to others, we'll open up the way to the collapse of the Union. But I'm convinced that we'll resolve this problem.

"ON A COURSE OF COOPERATION AND UNITY"
["KURSOM SOTRUDNICHESTVA I YEDINSTVA"]

"II Congress of the OSTO Union of the Independent States"
["II s"yezd Soyuza OSTO HG"]

by V. Balabin

The II [Second] Congress[24] of the Union of Defense Sport-technical Organizations of the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States [II s"yezd Soyuza oboronnykh sportivno-tekhnicheskikh organizatsiy stran SNG] took place on 31 January 1997.

Delegations attended from the Azerbaijan Republic [Azerbaydzhanskaya Rezpublika], the Republic of Armenia [Respublika Armeniya], the Republic of Belarus [Respublika Belarus'], the Republic of Kazakhstan [Respublika Kazakhstan], the Kyrgyz Republic [Kyrgyzskaya Respublika], the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan [Respublika Tadzhikistan], and Ukraine [Ukraina].[26]

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[26]As listed. In Cyrillic alphabetical order.

The Congress considered the current state of affairs in the Union of OSTOs and recommended that the OSTOs continue to strengthen their mutual ties, based on the intergovernment Agreement on Joint Activity for Assisting the Sport-technical Organizations (Societies) of the States Participating in the Commonwealth of Independent States [mezhpravitel'stvennoye Soglasheniye o sovmestnoy deyatel'nosti po sodeystviyu rabote oboronnykh sportivno-technichestkikh organizatsiy (obshchestv) gosudarstv-uchastnikov SNG] of 28 April 1993, ...

It was decided to entrust the chairmanship of the Central Council of Union of OSTOs of the Independent States to one of the members of the Council of OSTO Chairmen.

The Congress confirmed an earlier decision of the Central Council of OSTOs of the Independent States concerning the transfer of property belonging to DOSAAF USSR in the former Soviet Union, to its successors, the central councils (committees) of ROSTO or OSTOs in the Independent Countries.

The delegates expressed regret that Gen-Col Yevgeniy Ivanovich Krylov, Chairman of the Central Council of the Union of OSTOs of the Independent States, and Aleksandr Yakovlevich Shcherbakov, First Deputy, were not present at the Congress. Following an exchange of views, the Congress relieved them of these duties.

Gen-Maj Rafik Mikhaylovich Karapetyan, Chairman of the Central Council of the OSTO of the Republic of Armenia, was elected as the new Chairman of the Central Council of the Union of OSTOs of the Independent States. Vladimir Mikhaylovich Davydov, Chief of the Secretariat of the ROSTO Central Council [nachal'nik sekretariata TsS ROSTO], was elected Deputy Chairman.

Photo: [Gen-Maj?] A[leksey] I[vanovich] Anokhin, Chairman of the ROSTO Central Council, addressing the Congress.

KVI-057, IN PATRIOT #07/1997

CLUB NEWS

[Information about the Croatian Telegraph Club (9ACWG), including its address.]

DIPLOMAS

The EWWA [European World Wide] diploma, issued under the aegis of the European Parliament, is based on a country list that corresponds, with a few exceptions, to the DXCC country listing. The EWWA manager is F6FQK.

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

W1DV will be in Manila for two years. QSL cards for DU/W1DV should go to KO7V.

5X1D has been on the air since early January 1997. QSL to SMØBFJ.

9U5CW and 9U5DX are using 9U5T in contests. QSL to F2VX.

KQ4ML will operate until 27 February 1997. He's been to Guantánamo five times and has had 6500 QSOs. QSL to WB6VGI.

ND5S, KF5LG, W8EB, and KB8ZXO will operate with the prefix PJ8 from St. Martin on all bands, telegraph, SSB, and RTTY, from 28 February to 8 March 1997. QSL to home calls. During contests, they will use PJ8A; QSL to W9NIP.

HB9BRM will again operate from Sri Lanka, this time from the beginning of March until the beginning of May or even later. He will use the callsign 4S7BRG on 3.5 to 28 MHz including WARC bands. QSL via the bureau or to Mario Primavesi, Falkensteiner str. 5, CH-4710, Balsthal, Switzerland (a new address; the old one is not valid).

XU2FB is KE2FB. He operates on 3.5 to 28 MHz, on c.w., SSB, and RTTY. QSL to N4JR.[15]

HS9AL will operate c.w. and SSB 14 - 22 March 1997 from Terntau Island. QSL to I4LCK.

THOUGHTS CONCERNING...

In KVI-031, we spoke of the peculiar tactics of Viktor Panin, UA3DGA, from Kashira, Moskovskaya Oblast', who begs his DX contacts for donations. He claims to operate QRP (5 Watts or less), but is heard as loud as 586 (poor tone is another of his trademarks) on all bands. Over half a year has passed [since the earlier article] but nothing has changed.

PATRIOT #08, FEBRUARY 1997, SIGNED 25 FEBRUARY 1997:

[The following three articles appeared in the
"'Airwaves' Club" ("Klub 'Efir'") column]

"Kronshtadt -- Cradle of Radio"
["Kronshtadt -- kolybel' radio"]

by Vera Pavlovna Mozhzherina, RA1AM

I work at the House of Children's and Youth Creativity [Dom detskogo i yunosheskogo tvorchestva], whose basic task is to train speed radiotelegraphers. We now have 50 kids learning the art of conducting telegraph radiocommunications. Our collective station, RZ1AXL, has operated as R1ADB ("Deti blokady") ["Children of the Blockade"][27] during the {Pobeda" ["Victory"] radioexpedition.

This activity was set up by my husband, Gennadiy Ivanovich Mozhzherin, RA1AF, after he retired from the military. He's been gone for five years now, but his work lives on.

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[27]A reference to the blockade of Leningrad by the German and Finnish forces, from 1941 to 1944.

We're proud of the fact that we live in a historic town, the cradle of radio. At our initiative, the Kronshtadt educational authorities established an amateur radio diploma [certificate]. It's been issued free since 1990, but the worsening of the material conditions in the educational system has forced us to request reimbursement for postage and processing expenses.

A special insert [? - vkladysh] was prepared for those who qualified for the diploma during the year of the 100th anniversary of the invention of radio.

The simplicity of the conditions for obtaining the diploma is explained by its purpose, which is to mark the invention of radio in Russia by Aleksandr Stepanovich Popov.

In the past, the rules for the diploma required a contact with (or monitoring) a station in St. Petersburg. But in 1995, the diploma "St. Petersburg -- Homeland of Radio" ["Sankt Peterburg -- Rodina radio"] was established. Now we don't quarrel with this, though you'll agree that inventing something and demonstrating it are two different things. But the main thing is that the homeland of radio is Russia and the cradle of radio is Kronshtadt.

The "Kronshtadt -- Cradle of Radio" diploma is issued with the jubilee insert for one contact with (or for monitoring) one amateur station in Kronshtadt. Your QSL card serves as the application. Enclose a postal money order receipt for R.5000.00 (Russia) or R.10000 (elsewhere in the Commonwealth of Independent States). Apply to: 189610, g. Kronshtadt, a/ya 13, Mozhzherinoy Vere Pavlovne [Vera Pavlovna Mozhzherinoy, P O Pox 13, 189610 KRONSHTADT, Russia].

Contest Rules -- What Should They Be?
[Polozheniye o sorevnovaniyakh -- kakim yemu byt'?]

by N[ikolay Valentinovich] Kazanskiy, UA3AF,
Senior Shortwave Radio Trainer,
Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation

Along with the economic difficulties, contest rules are probably a major reason for the decrease in the popularity of contests -- times, length of rounds and sub-rounds, how winners are determined. Increasing the number of sub-rounds, which was done to increase the tempo, has not proven justified.

It's time for detailed consideration of optimum rules for championships of Russia and cup competitions. Should a single set of rules apply to all of these, or should there be differing rules? There is a need to determine once and for all the time lengths and the number of rounds. Categories of contestants is an important question. Should there be a separate category for QRP operators? What should control numbers contain? Should multi-band operation be encouraged [by the point system]? Should there be separate c.w. and 'phone competitions?

A. Anikin, RA9AE, from Chelyabinsk, suggests the following rules for contests: Times 0600 to 1400 MSK[28]; reporting time 7 hours with up to two interruptions permitted; band changes not to exceed 40; permitted bands 1.8 to 28 MHz (except 10, 18, and 24 MHz); control numbers consist of QSO number (starting with 001) and geographical coordinates rounded to ten degrees (separately for latitude and longitude); each contact worth 2 points, each new station worked during entire contest regardless of band 4 points; final score is sum of points for contacts, new stations, and difference in coordinates (separately for latitude and longitude).

A. Anikin also suggests formation of a "Russia Contest Club" ["Rossiyskiy kontest-klub"], which would hold weekly "round tables" to consider sport matters.

Open Letter to SRR President B. G. Stepanov
[Otkrytoye pis'mo prezidentu SRR Stepanovu B. G.][29]

from the Central Radio Club of the Russian
Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel'

[Full text]

The difficult financial-economic situation that has developed in various areas of the national economy has directly affected amateur radio in Russia as well. The number of radiosport circles and sections, the number of radiostations. amd interest in amateur radio creativity[30] has deceased. War veterans, veterans of labor, and other radio amateurs are left without financial and material support.

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[28]From its location in western Siberia, Chelyabinsk appears to be about two time zones east of Moscow. See also footnote 2 above.

[29]With regard to the addressee, see page 24 of this summary translation for a later "correction." This "Open Letter" relates directly to the dispute between the SRR and ROSTO for the right to represent the Russian radio amateur movement. Background on the issues involved -- in particular the attempt by ROSTO to seize control of the SRR by holding a rump "SRR conference" at the Central Radio Club on 8 May 1995, at which ROSTO sympathizers were elected to office -- was contained in an article by Valeriy Georgiyevich Agabekov, UA6HZ, at the time SRR President, in PATRIOT #23, signed 6 June 1995; see summary translation for June 1995, pages 18 - 27. ROSTO's arguments were set forth in an article in PATRIOT #41, signed 10 October 1995; see summary translation for October - December 1995, pp 4 - 13.

[30]The Russian term radiolyubitel'skoye tvorchestvo refers to the design and building of electronic devices.

The situation that has developed in the Union of Radioamateurs of Russia [Soyuz radiolyubitey Rossii - SRR] has inflicted great harm on amateur radio and radiosport. Instead of uniting and together resolving the difficult tasks involved in defending the interests of radio amateurs, within the country as well as abroad, events are taking place in the SRR which are inflicting irreparable harm to it and to all of amateur radio.

Without undetaking an analysis of the reasons that gave rise to the current state of affairs, the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel' believes that the calling of a conference offers a way out of the existing situation; it proposes that the conference resolve the question of restoring a single SRR with the CRC of the RF Named After E. T. Krenkel' as its operating organ.

The position of the Central Radio Club is supported by 57 oblast', kray, and republic radio clubs in Russia, individual SRR members, individual radio amateurs, and regional conferences of radio amateurs. No one has the right not to take into consideration the opinion of the absolute majority of Russia's radio amateurs and radiosportsmen or to ignore their interests. Only radio amateurs should decide their own fate.

The Central Radio Club has repeatedly appealed to you on the above matter and has not received a reply to a single letter.

We appeal to you again with this open letter. We propose that we unite our efforts in the name of those to whom the interests of Russia's radio amateurs are important. We propose that an SRR conference be held in the near future.

The CRC is prepared to handle all organizational matters and to assume a portion of the expenses.

KVI-059, IN PATRIOT #08/1997

TKS FOR CONGRATULATI0NS

The ROSTO Central Council and the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation Named After E. T. Krenkel' express sincere thanks to all who sent congratulations on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Defense Society OSOAVIAKHIM - DOSAAF - ROSTO[7, 23], including collectives[31] and individual licensees: RW6AWA (Krasnodar), RK1NWA (Republic of Karelia), RVØAE/mm (Krasnoyarsk), UA4NC (Kirov), UA9MBM (Omsk), RW4HS (Samara), UA9JDJ (Tyumen'), UA4PWR (Republic of Tatarstan), RK6WWG (Republic of Dagestan), EU1XA (Belarus'), UK8IWW (Uzbekistan), UA3FQ (Domodedovo), UA3PAO (Tula), RA3XK (Kaluga), UA4FRV (Penza), UA1WBU (Pskov), and US3ID (Donetsk, Ukraine).

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[31]It is assumed that in Russia, as in the former USSR, collective stations, and only collective stations, have "2 x 3" callsigns containing W, X, Y, or Z as the second-to-last letter.

COMPETITIONS

A reminder that the Shortwave Radio Telephone Championship of Russia takes place 9 March 1997 from 0000 to 0400 and from 0800 to 1200 MSK.

The Federation of Radio Sport of Krasnodarskiy Kray is sponsoring "Kuban' Cup" telephone shortwave radio competitions 14 March 1997 from 2000 to 2400 MSK on 3600 - 3700 kHz. Radiosportsmen in Russia and the near abroad[32] are invited to participate. The competition time is split up into eight 30-minute rounds. The control number consists of RS and a serial number beginning with 001 with continuous numbering for all rounds. Repeat contacts are allowed in different rounds. Contacts with stations in Russia and the near abroad are worth one point; contacts with operators who don't submit reports
don't count. Send reports not later than 22 March 1997 to 350062, Rossiya, Krasnodar, a/ya 600, Sudeyskoy kollegii [Judges' Collegium, P O Box 600, 350062 KRASNODAR, Russia].

DIPLOMAS

The "Orlenok" children's - youth club, supported by the digital radio modes section [sektsiya tsifrozykh vidov radiosvyazi] of the International "Arctic" Club [Mezhdunarodnyy klub "Arktika"], has established the diploma [in English in original text] "Zelenograd Russian Silicon Valley." It is issued to amateurs throughout the world for conducting 35 QSOs (SWL), beginning 1 October 1995, with amateur stations in Moscow. The last letters of stations worked must make up the name of the diploma. A station in Zelenograd may be used to substitute for a missing letter. Applications in the form of log extracts, verified by two radio amateurs and accompanied by payment (US$6.00 or 12 IRCs), should be sent to 103482 Moskva, a/ya 142, RK3AZG [RK3AZG, P O Box 142, 103482 MOSCOW, Russia], [with the envelops marked] "Zayavka na diplom" ["Application for Diploma"].

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

7Q7KH will operate until mid-March 1997. QSL to home call WF5A.

HP1XWH is on the air from Panama. QSL to KFØUI.

During February 1997, HP2CWB (QSL manager) and HP1DON operated from IOTA NA-170 under a whole "bouquet" of calls -- 3EØS, 3FØS, H3ØS, H8ØS, H9ØS, HOØS, and HP17ØSB.

UX1KA is operating with the callsign VP8CTR from the Antarctic (IOTA An-006). He can be heard on the low-frequency bands and the WARC bands. QSL to home call.

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[32]The "near abroad" -- blízhneye zarubézh'ye -- refers to some or all of the countries that were Union Republics of the USSR.

PATRIOT #09, MARCH 1997, SIGNED 4 MARCH 1997:

KVI-060, IN PATRIOT #09/1997

COMPETITIONS

Radio amateurs in Russia and the near abroad[32] are invited to participate in an Open Championship of the Republic of Udmurtiya[33] to be held from 2200 to 2400 MSK 18 April ('phone) and from 0000 to 0200 MSK 19 April 1997 (c.w.) in the segments 1835 - 1930 and 3510 - 3645 kHz. ... Send reports by 7 May 1997 to 426060, Izhevsk, a/ya 3375, Markovu I. V. [I. V. Markov, P O Box 3375, 426060 IZHEVSK, Russia].

[Details on ARI International DX Contest, 3 - 4 May 1997, including I2UIY's address.] Radio amateurs who belong to clubs which are collective members of the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation may send their reports via the CRC.

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

9Q5PA will be in Zaire for 15 months.[34]

DF2WO will operate as XT2AW from Burkino Faso from 23 March to 14 April 1997, SSB and c.w. QSL to home call. Besides him, XT2PD (QSL to WB2YQH) to XT2AR (QSL to W4BYG) are on the air.

KM1E will operate as C6AGN from Green Turtle Bay, Bahama Islands, until 20 May 1997.

PATRIOT #10, MARCH 1997, SIGNED 11 MARCH 1997:

[The following article appeared in the column
OSOAVIAKHIM - DOSAAF - OSTO[21]]

Another "Radio-ROSTO" Satellite
[Ocherednóy spútnik "Radio-RADIO"]

On 4 March 1997, another "Radio-ROSTO" satellite was placed in orbit at the new Russia cosmodrome Svobodnyy[35], with the help of a "Start-1" rocket of the Military-Space Forces; this time the satellite was given the name "Zeya[36]."

A detailed story about the satellite and its creators will be published in a future issue of "Patriot."

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[33]Amateur stations in the Republic of Udmurtiya (abbreviation UD), contain the embedded Russian identifier 4W.

[34]This is Frank N. Patris, KC4PAU, ex-CN8NP/DJØIE, of the U.S. Foreign Service.

[35]Literally, "Free."

[36]My Russian-English dictionaries contain no entry under "Zeya."

KVI-061, IN PATRIOT #10/1997

COMPETITIONS

The Seventh Open Shortwave Radio Competitions for the "Ataman-97" Cup will take place 15 - 16 March 1997 in four rounds. ... The control number consists of the QSO serial number starting with 001 and the latitude and longitude of the transmitting station, rounded off to the nearest ten degrees. Cossacks and members of the "Don" ARDK [Assosiatsiya radiolyubiteley donskikh kazakov "Don" - "Don" Association of Don Cossack Radio Amateurs] transmit "K" at the end of the control number. For example, RW9HZZ, with the coordinates 57°N/85°E, transmits 00169, 00269; RZ4AXZ, 48°N/44°E, 00154, 00254; Cossack station RW4AWE 00154K, 00254K. Send reports within ten days to 400066, Volgograd, a/ya 109 [P O Box 109, 400066 VOLGOGRAD, Russia].

ACTIVITY DAYS

The radio amateurs of the Republic of Tatarstan[36] are conducting activity days 14 to 16 March 1997, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the OSTO Radio Club. [Rules are given.] Contacts with memorial stations UE4PWW or UE3PWR are worth extra points. Send reports to 420045, Kazan', a/ya 19 [P O Box 19, 420045 KAZAN', Russia] Information on radiosport in the Republic may be obtained in weekly "round tables" held Fridays at 1900 MSK on 1990 kHz and Saturdays at 0930 MSK on 3630 kHz, or by telephoning 8-432-76-64-32.

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

LX2DX will be in Guinea-Bissau 24 - 30 May 1997 and will operate as J52DW. QSL to home call.

DL3ABL (QSL manager) and DL6MHW will be in the Bahamas 24 March - 4 April 1997. During regular times, they will use their own callsigns with the prefix C6A, but during the CQ WW WPX Contest (29 - 30 March 1997), they'll apparently use a more laconic (brief, terse) callsign.

FS5PL has changed his QSL manager from KFØUI to NØJT.

NC8V will visit Little Cayman 20 - 27 March 1997, probably using the ZF8 prefix. QSL to home call.

9N1RHM is active on c.w. and RTTY on the higher-frequency bands. QSL to KV5V.

I4LCK (QSL manager), HSØ/IK4MRH, E21AOY/8, and HS1ASN will be on the air as HS9AL 14 - 22 March 1997.

Special station CN36GI operated in honor of the anniversary of the coronation of the Monarch of Morocco.

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[36]Amateur stations in the Republic of Tatarstan (abbreviation TA), contain the embedded Russian identifier 4P.

[Following KVI-061]

One of the articles in the "'Airwaves' Club" [klub "Efir"] column (in PATRIOT #08) was an "Open Letter" from the Central Radio Club of the Russian Federation. Unfortunately, due to a regrettable misunderstanding, the name of the addressee was not given as it appeared in the original received by the editors. In fact, the heading should have read "Open Letter to Mr. B. Stepanov" ["Otkrytoye pis'mo g-nu B. Stepanov"].[37]

PATRIOT #11, MARCH 1997, SIGNED 18 MARCH 1997:

KVI-011, IN PATRIOT #11/1997

CHANGES INTRODUCED [VNESENY IZMENENIYA]

[Changes in the calendar of radiosport competitions in the Russian Federation.]

RS-16 ON THE AIR [V EFIRE RS-16]

On 4 March 1997, the first launch was carried out at the Russian cosmodrome "Svobodnyy." It's significant [znamenatel'no] that the "Zeya" satellite became the first equipment [??? - appatatom-pervootkryvatelem] to begin the history of this space harbor. Its callsign RS-16 is confidently [uverenno] sounding forth on the airwaves. Å propos [??? - K slovu,] the predecessor of the "Zeya" -- the satellite "Radio-ROSTO" (RS-15), launched in December 1994 -- is still fully operational [rabotosposoben]. A repeater with input on 145 and output on 29 and 435 MHz, radiobeacons on the frequencies 29451, 29408, 435400, and 435456 kHz, and also navigational equipment for scientific experiments based on amateur radio communications are installed in the new satellite. Not all of the on-board equipment is switched on yet, but the day is not far off when it will be possible to conduct QSOs via "Zeya." But monitoring of its signals is no less interesting.

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[37]See pages 19 - 20 above for open letter, the heading of which was "Open Letter to SRR President B. G. Stepanov." The effect, and presumably the intent, of the correction is to remove the implication that Stenanov is recognized as President of the SRR. In his opponents' view, Yu. Zhomov [UA4FG(?), ex-UA4LA(?)], occupies this post, having been "elected" to it at the "SRR Conference" held 8 May 1995 at the Central Radio Club.

ACTIVITY DAYS

In honor of the 70th anniversary of the Yekaterinburg Shortwave Section, the radio amateurs of Sverdlovskaya Oblast'[38] will conduct activity days 25 - 27 April 1997. [Rules are given.] Send reports to 620014, Yekaterinburg, ul. Malysheva, 33-a, RTSh ROSTO, QSL-byuro [QSL Bureau, ROSTO Radio Technical School, 33-a Malyshev St., 620014 YEKATERINBURG, Russia].

DIPLOMAS

The Ministry of Youth, Tourism, Physical Culture, and Sport of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutiya)[39], the administration of Yakutsk, the OSTO Combined Technical School, and the Federation of Radio Sport of the Republic have established the "365 Years of Russia - Yakutiya" diploma [certificate], dedicated to the 365th anniversary of the entry of Yakutiya into Russia and of the founding of Yakutsk. [Rules are given.] Extra points will be awarded for working jubilee stations RØQYA and RØQ/365 and for working special-call stations operating during activity days held from 26 August to 7 September 1997. Apply to 677000, Yakutsk, a/ya 046, Dokhturovoy T. A. [T. A. Dokhturova, P O Box 046, 677000 YAKUTSK, Russia].

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

According to AB5XZ, Chuck Brady, N4BQW, operated until the beginning of March from Midway (KH7), after which he intended to operate from Kure Island (KH4).

9Q5BQ is active from Zaire. QSL to HB9AMO.

TY1NI is operating from Benin for two weeks. QSL to PE1IVQ.

FS5PL is operating from Tintamarre Island with the special call FS9X.

Unfortunately, for unknown reasons not a single license has been issued for a year for operation from Pratas Island (BV9P).

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[38]Possibly reflecting the preferences of local officials, the city of Sverdlovsk has returned to its pre-Soviet name of Yekaterinburg, whereas Sverdlovskaya Oblast' has retained its Soviet name. Amateur stations in the Oblast' (abbreviation SV) contain the embedded Russian identifier 9C or 9D.

[39]Amateur stations in the Republic of Sakha, formerly known as Yakutiya (abbreviation YA), contain the embedded Russian identifier ØQ. Yakutsk is the capital.

SILENT KEY

Aleksey Germanovich Rekach, U3DQ [ex-UA3DQ], has left us. He was one of the senior radio amateurs of Russia, a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, a participant in the opening up of the Arctic and Antarctic, an outstanding radiotelegrapher, and an active shortwaver... His name will be printed on the brightest pages of the history of the development of amateur radio in our country and throughout the world.

PATRIOT #12, MARCH 1997, SIGNED 25 MARCH 1997:

KVI-063, IN PATRIOT #12/1997

COMPETITIONS

[Rules for fourth "European Sprint."] In last year's autumn "Sprint," LY1DS came in first and RA3AUU came in fourth. ...

DISTANT STATIONS

[Highly selective]

Completely unexpectedly, 3Y2GV was heard for three hours [recently] operating c.w. in the 18 MHz band. This callsign was used in the past by a Norwegian expedition to Buvet Island, but since there have been no reports on repeating such an expedition, this is probably the result of a twisted sense of humor.

The planned expedition to Belize (V31DX) in early March 1997 didn't take place. Now an attempt will be made to operate from there in the CQ WW WPX Contest.

The next item of information doesn't bring joy: The DXCC has concluded that the license for operating 701A from Yemen was not issued by the administration having the necessary authority, and therefore contacts with 701A are not counted toward the diploma. DJ9ZB promises that he will organize a "proper" ["právil'nuyu"] expedition to Yemen in late April 1997 and will operate c.w., SSB, and RTTY: he has even sent equipment and antennas to Yemen.

Until 31 March 1997, OZ8RO will be on Spitsbergen, apparently operating as JW8RO. QSL to home call.

[END OF SUMMARY TRANSLATION FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 1997]

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